February 14, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: DIA asks Macomb County judge to dismiss admission fee challenge

"The Detroit Institute of Arts is asking a judge to dismiss a lawsuit filed by five Macomb County residents who say the museum breached its contract with voters when it denied them free admission to the Faberge exhibition. A hearing on the motion is set for Feb. 25 before Macomb County Circuit Judge John C. Foster."

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Judge rules decision to cut Pontiac pension board violated Open Meetings Act

"An Oakland County judge ruled against Pontiac's emergency financial manager Wednesday over the operations of the city's retiree pension board. Judge Rae Lee Chabot upheld a preliminary injunction filed by the pension board for the city's retired employees against emergency financial manager Lou Schimmel."

Full story

Also see:

Associated Press: Judge rules against emergency manager on pensions

Full story

The Oakland Press: Judge to Pontiac emergency manager: 'Looks like a dictatorship'

Full story

The Detroit News: Schuette to challenge no-parole ruling for Michigan teens

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette has told Michigan prosecutors a federal judge's recent opinion on no-parole sentences for juveniles covers only five prisoners and is not a broad decision that applies to some 300 additional inmates in state prison."

Full story

Also see:

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Attorney general: No parole for young offenders

Full story

** The article is available by subscription only.

WKAR News/East Lansing: Schuette To Prosecutors: Don't Resentence Juvenile Lifers

Full story

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Mich. AG casts doubt on impact of federal no-parole juvenile ruling

Full story

The Oakland Press: Sentenced to life at 16, woman hopes for freedom Full story

Detroit Free Press: Joseph Gentz's sentencing moved up to Tuesday

"The man who admitted he killed a Grosse Pointe Park woman is scheduled to be sentenced Tuesday in Detroit.... [Joseph] Gentz was scheduled to be sentenced March 1, but the court rescheduled the date, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office spokeswoman Maria Miller said today."

Full story

Also see:

MLive.com: Jane Bashara hitman Joseph Gentz to be sentenced next week Full story

The Detroit News: Judge Damon J. Keith reflects on luminaries, legacies and lessons

"... [Judge Damon] Keith, 90, still hears cases in the Sixth Circuit, working a half schedule. Today, he'll host more than 400 invited guests at the federal courthouse for his 26th annual Soul Food Luncheon." <u>Full story</u>

Detroit Free Press: State is pressed to keep drunken-driving blood-alcohol content at 0.08%

"It's a no-brainer, say police, judges and Mothers Against Drunk Driving. They're advocating for the state to keep its drunken-driving limit at 0.08% -- which appears likely."

Full story

Also see:

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Press & Argus.

The Detroit News: MADD, State Police urge 0.08 alcohol limit renewal Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Threshold for drunk driving set to lessen unless lawmakers act

Full story

The Oakland Press: MADD: Keep Michigan's BAC law at .08 percent Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Times Herald/Port Huron, the Traverse City Record-Eagle and WKAR News/East Lansing.

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Why Michigan's BAC Limit Needs To Stay Full story

Court Manager: The Winner of the 2012 G. Thomas Munsterman Award for Jury Innovation

"This past summer, the National Center for State Courts had the most competitive pool of nominees for the G. Thomas Munsterman Award for Jury Innovation since the award was created in 2008.... Ultimately, the [advisory] committee selected the Michigan Supreme Court and its committee of 12 trial judges who pilot-tested a number of proposed rules designed to improve juror performance and satisfaction."

Note: No link available. See attached article.

Detroit Legal News: AG Bill Schuette files appeals in case against ex-McCotter aides (second article)

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is appealing the dismissal of conspiracy charges against two former aides to a Detroit-area congressman accused in an election scandal. Schuette filed his claim Tuesday with the Michigan Court of Appeals following the Jan. 18 dismissal of the charges against Don Yowchuang and Paul Seewald."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Ingham County Legal News: Supreme Court rules on Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

"The Michigan Supreme Court issued an opinion (State of Michigan v McQueen, #143824) further defining the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MMMA). The court said that the MMMA does not contemplate patient-to-patient sales of medical marijuana and that by facilitating such sales, defendants' medical marijuana dispensary was a public nuisance and should be ordered closed."

Full story

Also see:

Dowagiac Daily News: Supreme Court heads off local dispensary

Full story

MLive.com: Medical marijuana dispensaries would be legalized under proposal from Michigan lawmaker

Full story

Jackson Citizen Patriot: State Supreme Court rules incriminating statements can be presented to jurors in Kadeem White's murder case

"The Michigan Supreme Court ruled the 'confession' of a Jackson teen accused of murder can be presented to a jury. Justices, in a 3-2 decision released Wednesday, Feb. 13, found Jackson police Detective Brett Stiles did not subject Kadeem White to questioning after White invoked his right to remain silent."

Full story

Also see:

Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: Court rules against teen in dispute over interview

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Midland Daily News and the WILX-TV(10)/Lansing.

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Michigan Supreme Court: Cop did not violate 5th

Amendment

Full story

WKAR News/East Lansing: Michigan Supreme Court: Cop Did Not Violate 5th Amendment By Talking To Suspect

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Portage council wants city manager to continue negotiations on closing Portage District Court

"The District Court in Portage will close March 1, but the city of Portage is not ready to close the books on that yet.... Kalamazoo County District Court Chief Judge Paul Bridenstine said recently that the Portage court will close the day following Judge Carol Husum's retirement. It's being closed following a decision by the state of Michigan last year to eliminate one district court judge position in Kalamazoo County through attrition."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: Court: Drug charge OK in neighbor case

"A Detroit-area man can be charged with drug crimes after police checking on his well-being entered his home without a warrant and discovered marijuana growing in a closet, according to the Michigan Court of Appeals."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Annual St. Patrick's Day Party hosted March 13

"Oakland County 52-3 District Court Judges Julie Nicholson and Judge Nancy Carniak extend an invitation to the 13th Annual St. Patrick's Day Party on Wednesday, March 13, from 5 to 8 p.m. at The Venue (formerly known as The Post, across from the Palace), 3380 Lapeer Rd. in Auburn Hills."

Full story

The Oakland Press: Judge rules that evidence and statements can be heard by jurors as Troy man awaits murder trial

"An Oakland County Circuit Court judge has denied three motions filed by attorneys for a Troy man accused of killing his father. Patrick Mikes Jr. was in court Wednesday morning for the motion hearing, in which motions seeking to suppress evidence, suppress an audio recording and quash a circuit court bind over of the case on an open murder charge were heard."

Full story

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The Oakland Press: Judge orders lawyer to remove Facebook comments in McDonald's case

"[Wayne County Circuit Judge Kathleen Macdonald] has ordered a lawyer to remove some Facebook references to a case involving allegations that a McDonald's falsely advertised its food as being prepared according to Islamic dietary law."

Full story

Also see:

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Judge orders lawyer to remove Facebook comments over McDonald's lawsuit

Full story

The Oakland Press: Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown withdraws challenge on same-sex marriage, adoption

"It appears Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown will not challenge a lesbian couple's efforts in court to find Michigan's same-sex marriage ban unconstitutional."

Full story

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Judges' age limit ought to remain

The editorial states "There are plenty of judges capable of meeting the demands of serving on the bench despite their advancing years. They are casualties of Michigan's judicial age limit."

Full story

** The article is available by subscription only.